

1 KAMALA D. HARRIS
2 Attorney General of California
3 TERRENCE SHEEHY
4 Deputy Attorney General
5 JOHN P. WALTERS
6 Deputy Attorney General
7 State Bar No. 216472
8 110 West A Street, Suite 1100
9 San Diego, CA 92101
P.O. Box 85266
San Diego, CA 92186-5266
Telephone: (619) 645-3033
Fax: (619) 645-2581
E-mail: John.Walters@doj.ca.gov
Attorneys for Defendants
T. Armstrong, T. Catlett, G. Janda, R. Lizarraga, T.
Ochoa, and G. Trujillo

10 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
11 FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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13
14 STANFORD PAUL BRYANT,

15 Plaintiff,

16 v.
17

18 T. ARMSTRONG, et al.,

19 Defendants.

20 08-CV--02318-W-RBB

21 DEFENDANTS' OPPOSITION TO
22 PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO COMPEL
23 DISCOVERY (DOC. NO. 86)

24 Courtroom: B
25 Judge: The Honorable Ruben B. Brooks
26 Trial Date: None Set
27 Case Filed: 3/3/2009
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29 Defendants respectfully submit this Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Discovery
(Doc. No. 86).

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1 **I. THIS COURT SHOULD DENY PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO COMPEL BECAUSE THE**
 2 **MOTION IS MOOT SINCE THE PARTIES NARROWED THE REQUESTS THROUGH THE**
 3 **MEET-AND-CONFER PROCESS.**

4 Plaintiff moves to compel Defendant Janda to respond to requests 3, 4, and 5. Defendant
 5 objected to those requests, but informed Plaintiff that responses would be provided if Plaintiff
 6 agreed to narrow the requests to relevant information. (Walters Decl. ¶ 4.) The parties then
 7 exchanged a series of meet-and-confer letters. (Walters Decl. ¶¶ 5-9.) Plaintiff agreed to limit
 8 requests 3, 4, and 5 to documents in “the defendant’s personnel files that relate to discipline
 9 and/or training of the individual defendants (sic)” Defendants then informed Plaintiff that
 10 they would provide training records for all Defendants, and those records were provided.
 11 (Walters Decl. ¶¶ 8, 9.) Defendants also informed Plaintiff that they would provided records
 12 relating to the discipline of Defendants, but only for issues similar to the claims in this case –
 13 retaliation and discrimination. (Walters Decl. ¶¶ 8-10.) All other records would be irrelevant.
 14 For example, discipline for excessive force, if any, is not relevant to the claims in this case since
 15 there is no force alleged.

16 Defendants have already responded as to Defendant Ochoa. (Walters Decl. ¶ 9.)
 17 Defendants anticipate completing the responses for the remaining Defendants at any time.
 18 (Walters Decl. ¶ 11.)

19 Plaintiff filed this motion while the parties were still actively engaged in the meet-and-
 20 confer process. But as noted, the parties reached an agreement to narrow the scope of the
 21 requests, and Defendants are complying with responding to the narrowed requests. Therefore,
 22 this motion is moot, and it should be denied.

23 **II. EVEN IF THE MOTION IS NOT MOOT, THIS COURT SHOULD DENY THE MOTION**
 24 **BECAUSE DEFENDANTS' OBJECTIONS AND RESPONSES WERE PROPER.**

25 Plaintiff's original requests were objectionable because they were irrelevant, vague, and
 26 overbroad. For example, in request 3, Plaintiff sought all documents regarding the
 27 “mistreatment” of inmates. This request is irrelevant because it is not related to the claims in this
 28 case. Here, Plaintiff alleges that Defendants discriminated against him, and then retaliated in
 29 responses to his complaints. Accordingly, any documents for other “mistreatment” of inmates

1 would not be relevant. Further, the request is vague as to what constitutes "mistreatment." The
2 term could potentially include denial of visitors, processing of mail, and countless other unrelated
3 claims. This is exactly why the parties agreed to narrow the requests.

4 Also, request 5 is overly broad, unduly burdensome, and seeks materials not likely to lead
5 to the discovery of admissible evidence because it seeks documents unrelated to the claims in this
6 case. The request seeks all documents in personnel files related to "discipline and/or training."
7 As noted above, any documents for "discipline" of the Defendants is overly broad. This case has
8 specific and narrow claims. If any Defendants were disciplined for unrelated claims, such as
9 visits, mail, and even force, the records would not be relevant to Plaintiff's claims. Again, this is
10 why the parties agreed to limit the scope of the requests. Therefore, Plaintiff's motion should be
11 denied.

12 **CONCLUSION**

13 Based on the foregoing, this Court should deny Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Discovery.

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15 Dated: December 5, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

16 KAMALA D. HARRIS
17 Attorney General of California
18 TERRENCE SHEEHY
Deputy Attorney General

19 /s/ John P. Walters

20 JOHN P. WALTERS
21 Deputy Attorney General
22 *Attorneys for Defendants*
T. Armstrong, T. Catlett, G. Janda, R.
Lizarraga, T. Ochoa, and G. Trujillo

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Case Name: **Bryant, Stanford v. Armstrong,
et al.** No. **08-CV--02318-W-RBB**

I hereby certify that on December 5, 2011, I electronically filed the following documents with the Clerk of the Court by using the CM/ECF system:

DEFENDANTS' OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO COMPEL DISCOVERY (DOC. NO. 86)

Participants in the case who are registered CM/ECF users will be served by the CM/ECF system.

I am employed in the Office of the Attorney General, which is the office of a member of the California State Bar at which member's direction this service is made. I am 18 years of age or older and not a party to this matter. I am familiar with the business practice at the Office of the Attorney General for collection and processing of correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service. In accordance with that practice, correspondence placed in the internal mail collection system at the Office of the Attorney General is deposited with the United States Postal Service with postage thereon fully prepaid that same day in the ordinary course of business.

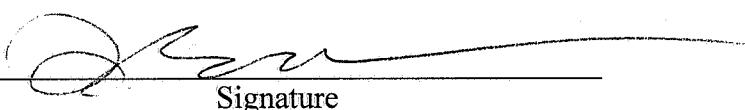
I further certify that some of the participants in the case are not registered CM/ECF users. On December 5, 2011, I have caused to be mailed in the Office of the Attorney General's internal mail system, the foregoing document(s) by First-Class Mail, postage prepaid, or have dispatched it to a third party commercial carrier for delivery within three (3) calendar days to the following non-CM/ECF participants:

Stanford P. Bryant
E-46727
California State Prison - Sacramento
P. O. 290066
Represa, CA 95671

In Pro Per

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on December 5, 2011, at San Diego, California.

J. Grand
Declarant



Signature